

REMARKS

By the foregoing Claim 1 has been effectively amended to include therein the subject matter of former claim 3 and intervening claim 2.

Claim 11 has been amended to effectively include therein the subject matter of former claim 3.

Claims 2 and 3 have been canceled.

Newly submitted claims 14-20 are similar in scope to original claims 4-10.

In the Office Action to which applicant responds, the examiner indicated the possible allowability of inter-alia former claim 3. Accordingly, it is believed that with the foregoing amendment, since all claims now depend either directly or indirectly upon what is believed to be an allowable claim, all claims should be allowable at least for this reason, and favorable reconsideration of the application is earnestly requested.

Applicant encloses herewith the relevant pages of a search report issued May 12 in connection with the concordant PCT application (PCT/ IB2004/004039). Applicant's agent is not yet in receipt of all of the citations, and these will be forwarded as they come to hand. However, it is noted that the most pertinent of the citations applied herein by the examiner was cited by the PCT examiner merely under category A, as being of background interest only. In view of the instant amendments, which are made in an endeavour to secure a prompt allowance of the application, the rejection of claims on the grounds cited is rendered moot, and applicant makes no admission as to the merits of the rejection.

Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

Jan Folkmar, Applicant

by Kenneth M. Garrett
Reg 27, 514

| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC | | |
|---|--|---|
| B. FIELDS SEARCHED | | |
| Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B65D | | |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched | | |
| Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal | | |
| C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X | DE 295 12 115 U1 (KURI KUNSTSTOFF-VERARBEITUNG GMBH, 53229 BONN, DE) 16 November 1995 (1995-11-16) figure 1 | 11,12 |
| X | WO 03/029092 A (JMS CO., LTD; FUJII, SUMIYA) 10 April 2003 (2003-04-10) figures 1,4 & EP 1 440 896 A (JMS CO., LTD) 28 July 2004 (2004-07-28) | 11,12 |
| A | US 4 847 956 A (LEVINE ET AL) 18 July 1989 (1989-07-18) claim 1; figure 5 | 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex. | | |
| * Special categories of cited documents : | | |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "Z" document member of the same patent family |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search 4 May 2005 | | Date of mailing of the international search report 12/05/2005 |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patenlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl. Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 | | Authorized officer Bridault, A |

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/004039

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
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| WO 03029092 | A | 10-04-2003 | CA 2462123 A1 | 10-04-2003 |
| | | | CN 1558857 A | 29-12-2004 |
| | | | EP 1440896 A1 | 28-07-2004 |
| | | | WO 03029092 A1 | 10-04-2003 |
| | | | US 2004255436 A1 | 23-12-2004 |
| EP 1440896 | A | 28-07-2004 | CA 2462123 A1 | 10-04-2003 |
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| | | | CN 1558857 A | 29-12-2004 |
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| US 4847956 | A | 18-07-1989 | NONE | |